

State Department Defends Aid To Israel Before Senate Body

WASHINGTON, May 7 (JPA Airmail). — "The promotion of Israel's political and economic stability and its eventual integration into the Near East are among the primary objectives of U.S. foreign policy in this area." This policy statement by Arthur Z. Gardner, Economic Operations Adviser to the State Department Near East Bureau, emerged in answer to hostile questioning at the Senate Foreign Relations Committee.

Mr. Gardner's statement was released here yesterday as part of the report of the closed sessions of the Committee. It stated, "we have consistently sought, both within and outside the framework of the U.N., to encourage peaceful settlements between Israel and its neighbors, to stipulate economic development, and thus to create conditions favorable to the viability and effective defense of the region."

He described austerity measures taken by Israel and fundraising efforts in the U.S. "In spite of these measures," he said, "Israel's financial position has continued to deteriorate. Despite intensive efforts to raise the funds to carry out the minimum investment programme required to resettle its refugees, Israel has been unable to find sufficient financial resources to maintain its population, even at austere levels, while developing a self-sustaining economy." He recommended aid for Israel through the foreign aid programme.

Food and Fodder
A tabulation of emergency aid which the State Department has recommended for 1953, was made known yesterday. The largest proportion includes basic foodstuffs, fodders, raw materials for clothing and footwear, and fuel. The proposed emergency aid is intended to provide 90,000 tons of wheat and wheat flour, costing approximately \$10m. In addition, \$5m. worth of other basic foods, including sugar, meat, milk, egg powder, and beans, are to be supplied.

Other categories include funds for housing, seeds, fertilizers, farm buildings, farm tools, livestock, medical facilities, transport, power, irrigation, new machinery and industrial raw materials; fishing boats, deep-freezing plants, and refrigeration equipment.

It is proposed to finance the acquisition of medical supplies and equipment, as well as the construction of additional hospital facilities. The Programme seeks to facilitate highway and

Yugoslav Constitutional Reforms
BELGRADE, Sunday (Reuters). — Yugoslavia will have a President under a new constitutional law being drafted, the Yugoslav agency Tanjug said yesterday.

Elected by the Presidium of the National Assembly, comprising some 40 delegates, he will lead the Presidium and be supreme commander of the armed forces. The cabinet will be abolished and its functions taken over by the presidium of the Federal and Republican National Assemblies.

The office of President of the Republic does not at present exist in Yugoslavia. The powers of head of the State rest with the Presidium of the National Assembly as a body, supported by the majority of the people. On the contrary, everybody hoped that it would succeed. But no appeal can make an impression, and complaints about low morale lose their meaning when people cannot make ends meet. These are plain facts, and the only possible conclusion is that, at all costs, any further upturn of the price-wage spiral must be stopped. It is for the Government to regulate the factors behind index numbers rather than let itself be governed by them.

SAYING good-bye to the British troops in Germany, General Eisenhower, their retiring supreme general, spoke with even more than his usual generosity which is customary at a moment of final parting. They were, he said, "the best of the best of our civilization." Such words could not fail to stir. Yet, upon the mind of Tommy, there may also have fallen a faint shadow of uneasiness. He is, as soldiers go, an unassuming chap, with even fewer delusions of mission than the best of our soldiers. A big prize in the football pool which absorbs part of his pay every week. In art, he takes delight in the robust sentiment of lyrics like "Only a Bird in a Gilded Cage"; whilst politics he finds in the main both uninteresting and unrelatable. Suddenly, he is aware of the importance of his job as defined by Queen's Regulations; and no doubt there come moments when he regards himself as an outpost, say, of Liverpool or of the Western Highlands. But of civilization? Struggle!

In Africa a solitary district commissioner is often separated from his nearest white colleague by a belt of some hundreds of miles where the two prevailing influences are those of the savanna and the witch doctor. But it is a mistake to think of the British soldier beyond the Rhine as a Sanders of the River. Nor is it either a misapprehension or a mistake to think of the British soldier as a man who must inevitably be sentimental.

ALTHOUGH a number of French-speaking scientists attended, the bulk of the Desert Symposium has been held in English, the language of the British and American speakers, and also that which comes easiest to most Israelis. On occasion, however, polemics threw a spanner into the works. On Friday Professor G. Aubert was speaking on irrigation problems in Central Nigeria, in his native French. Dr. Lowdermilk rose to put a question and, for courtesy's sake, asked it in Saint, though of

FIRST ARTIFICIAL LAKES TO MAKE ARID AREAS BLOOM



Experimental Dams in Neger a Success

By ROBERT GARY

ISRAEL'S ambitious programme for making the desolate Neger bloom has taken a significant step forward with the report of successful experiments with two small Neger reservoirs — one of which is pictured above.

The Water Department of the Ministry of Agriculture has followed through with a request for a IL. 1,000,000 allocation for four or five big reservoirs to be built with materials found on the spot. Instead of using costly concrete, the new projects will be built with the same cheaper material.

Continuous tests were carried out by the Department's engineers who wanted to know the amount of seepage into the soil and through the walls of the dams. The basins are full at the present time and the water will be used this summer by the local settlements. Further tests will also be carried out to determine the rate of evaporation.

Little Salt
One of the most important pieces of information learned this winter was that the water gathered in at the dams is of very high quality. It had first been feared that the water, which runs through wadis and over land that has a very

high salt content, would be highly saline, thus precluding its use for irrigation purposes. It was found, however, that the saline content was lower than the well water which is presently used for drinking as well as for agriculture.

The experimental units also gave the Department an excellent opportunity to give young engineers and technicians practical experience in the maintenance of dams. They worked under the supervision of Mr. A. De Leeuw, a veteran civil engineer who emigrated to Israel from Holland some years ago and is now Chief Engineer of the Water Department.

The new dams are considered "only the beginning." By storing huge quantities of rain water which ordinarily would run off to the Mediterranean during the winter months, large new areas throughout the country will be open to settlement. Without this water these barren, sun-parched regions are uninhabitable during the eight-month dry spell. The new dams will end this curse and supply water the year round.

Desert Symposium's Practical Use

By RITCHIE CALDER, CBE

Science Editor of the "New Chronicle," London, now attending the "Congress of the Desert" Symposium in Israel.

FIFTY scientists from six continents have been enjoying themselves at the International Symposium on Deserts. Some may think that it is a queer form of enjoyment to sit for hours listening and arguing.

But, as one who has to attend a lot of these, I can assure you that it is very stimulating for a scientist who has been engrossed in one set of problems to be able to compare notes with his colleagues in different fields of research and to find out how they inter-relate. He enjoys having his work challenged because these symposia are not just lectures. They are a "trial by jury" — a jury of his scientific peers.

Imaginative Cost

Another thing, it enables him to meet in the flesh scientists who have only been names on monographs. And, of course, the most important business of these symposia is not conducted in the session-room but in the lobbies or over a cup of coffee.

Another thing, it helps to fire his imagination. There is the true saying of Claude Bernard, the "father" of endocrinology, the study of the glands. Bernard, who was a poet and a playwright, said: "When you enter a laboratory put off your imagination as you take off your coat but put it on again with your coat when you leave."

As one whose job it is continually to remind scientists that they have forgotten their imaginative cost and are unable to regard research as a sleeveless errand, I am personally grateful to our Israeli hosts for providing this valuable service and giving their imagination a good brush up. Certainly nothing could have a more salutary effect

than introducing them to a new country, modern and scientific, which is more than half desert and saying "Help us not only to feed our people but to provide an example by which the hungry world can be fed."

Geographers, hydrologists, climatologists, soil-scientists, physiologists, botanists and physiologists when they go back to their laboratories and their professorial chairs will have a touchstone of reality. They will not just be content to say "This (or that) is a curious phenomenon," but "Maybe this could be useful in transforming deserts."

Some of my Israeli friends do not think that the symposium is very practical. I assure you emphatically that it is — though you might not think so from the learned character of some of the papers.

It depends what you mean by "practical." If you regard a scientist, as one British C-in-C. did, as "My tame magician," then you will be disappointed; there will be no magical transformations of the Neger as a result of this meeting. The results will be long-term, but the ideas which have sparked will be useful to the applied scientists in the meantime.

But if you want to avoid the mistakes which brought civilizations to disaster in the past and which by wrong thinking and bad management have wrecked whole tracts of the world in our own day and generation, then this symposium is eminently practical.

All over the world I have seen the results of man's folly — the havoc wrought by rushing in with a little bit of knowledge and finding that Nature has a trick or two up her sleeve.

Scientists are "know-hows" not "know-alls." Only by adding up the sum of experience of the many specialities can a balanced judgment on possibilities be reached. And if you added up all the specialities present at this symposium you would be somewhere near that sum. — Except that I insist that the social scientists ought to have a say like the others, because it is the relation of the human community to nature which matters in the end.

World Concern

This was a world conference, concerned not only with the development of Israel but with the recovery of those 80 million hectares of arid soils which as Dr. Charles Kellogg pointed out could be brought into production by irrigation if they are selected and managed with the best skills available and under administrative schemes which would develop all resources in combination.

Jerusalem has suffered a new crop of traffic jams, some of them placed in obvious danger spots, and some in places which were before that already too narrow for a large vehicle to be able to take a turn in comfort. Possibly in self-defence, the motorists have been knocking them down systematically, and it is rapidly becoming a matter of who works faster, the Municipal Public Works Department or the drivers. It seems one of the more unnecessary of battles.

Today's contributors include M. S. and A.L. Jerusalem.

HAIFA NAUTICAL SCHOOL
At the Hebrew Institute of Technology
Founded by the Jewish Agency for Palestine and The Jewish Community of Haifa
Registration of students for the school year 1952/53 for the school and its hostel has commenced. Students will be accepted: for the first form of the 1) Navigation; 2) Marine-Engineering Departments. A certain number of bursaries will be granted to capable students. The School functions will be held on Wednesdays and Fridays between 8.30 a.m. — 12 noon and on Saturdays and Wednesdays between 2 p.m. — 5 p.m.

Readers' Letters

BASIC RIGHT
To the Editor of The POST
Sir, — I was surprised to read that Mr. Shalom Ash found it necessary to answer the rumours and allegations circulated against him.

Some of the local newspapers were also caught in the psychosis of the witch hunt.

It would be well to remember that our State is noocracy. Every person is entitled to his own beliefs.

Mr. Ash's appearances before the press in an effort to justify his actions bears resemblance to the Middle Ages when an author had to appear before the Great Inquisitors to deny the charges of heresy.

INNOCENT ARMS
To the Editor of The POST
Sir, — Some municipal inspectors tried to arrest two or three, probably — blackmarketeers. The culprits opposed their arrest and a fight broke out in which the inspectors nearly got the worst of it, with the public choosing the offenders' side.

Do our authorities think it fit to "empower" their inspectors with a uniform only, leaving them to rely simply on their physical strength?

Would it not be fair to have the inspectors outfitted at least with a stick, and a pair of handcuffs which are the innocent arms of men entrusted with the same task in countries more crime-ridden than Israel, but which give them the necessary advantage over their opponents?

Yours etc.,
Bat Yam, J. D.

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a.s. NAKHSHON	Will sail at end of August from South Africa and at the beginning of September from West Africa direct to Israel. Dates of sailings will be announced in due time.
a.s. DROMIT	

NORTH-WEST EUROPE LINE

m.v. "RIMON"	Dates of sailings will be announced in due time. Sailed on May 12 to CYPRUS — GLASGOW — LIVERPOOL — ROTTERDAM and will load at the ports of North-West Europe for Haifa.
m.v. "ETROG"	Will sail on May 19 to MALTA — GLASGOW — LIVERPOOL — ANTWERP and will load in the ports of North-West Europe for Haifa.
m.v. "TAMAR"	Will sail on May 27 to CYPRUS — South Spanish ports — LIVERPOOL and will load at the ports of North West Europe for Haifa.
a.s. "KINERET"	Will sail from LONDON on May 14 to HAIFA and on June 10 will sail from Haifa to the ports of North West Europe.
a.s. "HADAR"	Will arrive to GLASGOW on May 12 and will load at the ports of England — Antwerp — Rotterdam — Hamburg and will sail to Haifa on May 25.

MEDITERRANEAN LINE

a.s. "NAKSHON"	Will sail on May 18 to Messina — Izmir — Genoa — Marseilles.
a.s. "KOMIUT"	Will sail from Haifa on May 12 to Izmir — Trieste — Haifa.
m.v. "HASHLOSHA"	Will sail from Haifa on May 15 to Cyprus — Izmir — Marseilles — Genoa — Haifa.

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